



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Randy I. Dorn Old Capitol Building · PO BOX 47200 · Olympia, WA 98504-7200 · <http://www.k12.wa.us>

January 27, 2010

() Action Required
(X) Informational

MEMORANDUM NO. 009-10M LEARNING AND TEACHING SUPPORT

TO: Educational Service District Superintendents
School District Superintendents

FROM: Randy I. Dorn, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

RE: Healthy Youth Survey 2010

CONTACT: Dixie Grunenfelder, Program Supervisor, Student Assistance Prevention
Intervention Program, (360) 725-4968, dixie.grunenfelder@k12.wa.us
Agency TTY (360) 664-363

Plans for the 2010 administration of the statewide Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) are underway, and all students in your schools in Grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 are encouraged to participate.

Healthy Youth Survey questions include: alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use; risk and protective factors related to youth problem behavior; safety and violence; diet and nutrition; health, health care, and exercise.

In 2008, over 198,000 students in 1,107 schools across Washington State completed the survey. The HYS plays a key role in helping schools make evidence-based decisions that lead to school improvement. The HYS also provides participating schools with important information about their students that may compromise academic success. A few key findings include:

- Over 30 percent of sixth graders reported having been bullied in the past 30 days.
- Alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana continue to be the most widely used by students. Over a quarter of twelfth graders reported heavy drinking, and a fifth of tenth graders reported attending school drunk or high.
- Over a third of tenth grade students reported having depressive feelings during the past year.
- Fifty-one percent of eighth grade students reported watching television or playing video games three or more hours on an average school day.

Schedule

In February, superintendents and principals will receive a letter with information on how to register online to participate in the 2010 survey. The survey will be administered the week of October 18–22, 2010, and results will be distributed in March of 2011.

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Survey Requirements

The survey takes only one class period to administer and student participation is completely voluntary and anonymous. To participate in the survey, principals must agree to follow the survey administration procedures:

- Send out an informational survey brochure to parents.
- Post information about the survey on the school Web site.
- Inform students of the survey.
- Place a copy of the survey in the school office.
- Provide an alternative activity for those students that choose not to participate in the survey.

To protect the anonymity of the students, at least 15 valid surveys are needed to produce school building reports of results.

For Further Information

The HYS is sponsored by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Social and Health Service's (DSHS) Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR), Department of Commerce, the Family Policy Council (FPC), and the Liquor Control Board (LCB).

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact:

Eric Einspruch, RMC Research Corporation	(800) 788-1887
Dixie Grunenfelder, OSPI	(360) 725-6045
Kevin Beck, DOH	(360) HYS-7111

Information about the survey is also available on the following Web sites:

- <http://www.hys.wa.gov>
- <http://www3.doh.wa.gov/HYS/>
- <http://www.askhys.net>

The agency TTY number is (360) 664-3631. This information is also available on the agency Web site <http://www.k12.wa.us/BulletinsMemos/memoranda2010.aspx>.

K-12 EDUCATION

STUDENT SUPPORT

Alan Burke, Ed.D.
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RD:bcp